

# Essex County College

NJ Higher Education Sector: Community College

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## College Bound Tech Program

Type of Partnership: Precollege Program

Year Began: 1998

Participants Served: 50

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Betty Foster/Lilisa J. Williams, Director/ Associate Director

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Partners: Newark Public Schools

### **DESCRIPTION**

Essex County College's College Bound Tech Program serves 150 middle school students, grades 7-8, from Newark Public Schools. The program provides educational support and enrichment activities to ensure the completion of middle school and successful pursuit of a postsecondary education. Although the program is open to all Newark middle school students, College Bound Tech specifically targets three Newark middle schools (Thirteenth Avenue, Vailsburg and Camden Middle Schools). The College Bound Tech Program staff works closely with the targeted schools to provide its students with academic support in the areas of mathematics, science, technology, and language arts. The program is based on the premise that these students, despite their disadvantages, can successfully pursue post-secondary education in the sciences, mathematics, or technology fields. The key is to provide students with the tools and encouragement they need to make the journey. The program includes a four-week summer component and an academic year program complete with Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment (GEPA) preparation, computers, individual tutoring, field trips, motivational experiences, college exposure, and career awareness workshops.

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## GEAR UP Newark

Type of Partnership: Precollege Program

Year Began: 2000

Participants Served: 1300

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Cassandra E. Davis, Director

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Partners: Newark Public Schools

### **DESCRIPTION**

The aim of the GEAR UP Newark program is to strengthen and build the capacity of Central High School feeder schools to improve student academic achievement and increase the number of low-income students who are prepared for and who will pursue postsecondary education. Strategic activities are targeted at three core groups: students, parents, and teachers.

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## Project GRAD Summer Institute

Type of Partnership: Precollege Program

Year Began: 1998

Participants Served: 80

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Susan Schenk, Director of Project GRAD

Essex County College

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Partners: Malcolm X Shabazz High School, Central High School

### **DESCRIPTION**

Summer institutes are an important component of Project GRAD Newark. Each GRAD scholar is required to attend two summer institutes, which may be taken after the freshman, sophomore or junior year of high school. Essex County College offers the post-freshman summer institute. The summer institutes are enrichment programs that better prepare Project GRAD students for course work at the high school and college level. Summer institutes also provide Project GRAD students with encouragement to complete high school and continue on to college.

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## Talent Search Program

Type of Partnership: Precollege Program

Year Began: 1975

Participants Served: 1200

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Partners: Newark School District

### **DESCRIPTION**

The Talent Search Program promotes retention and actively seeks to improve educational opportunity and access for target community students who traditionally have not participated fully in the advantages which higher education provides. The program's primary focus is to assist students from disadvantaged backgrounds to not only continue in and complete grades six through twelve but also to enroll in postsecondary educational programs. The program targets low-income and first-generation middle and high school students, and dropouts ages 11-27. Annual enrollment is open to 1200 students who attend Central, Technology, West Side, Malcolm X. Shabazz and West Kinney High Schools and Warren Street, Miller Street and William Brown Academy Middle Schools. During the program year, September-May, students receive academic preparation for the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment (GEPA), High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) and the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) as well as computer learning classes. In addition, students also have the opportunity to participate in college tours, cultural enrichment activities, tutoring, career assessment and counseling. Talent Search has operated under the auspices of Essex County College for the past twenty-six years. Project students have enrolled and graduated from undergraduate schools and continued on to graduate institutions and have become productive citizens within their communities.

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## Upward Bound

Type of Partnership: Precollege Program

Year Began: 1971

Participants Served: 135

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Partners: Newark School District

### **DESCRIPTION**

The Upward Bound program seeks to improve educational opportunity and access for community students that traditionally have not participated fully in the advantages of higher education. Its objective is to assist students from disadvantaged backgrounds to complete secondary school and to enroll in and graduate from post-secondary educational programs. It is committed to providing activities and services tailored to meet the needs of students in achieving these goals and to monitoring student progress through post-secondary graduation in order to evaluate overall program effectiveness. The program targets low-income Newark high school students, 13-19 years of age, most of whom are the first generation of their families to consider post-secondary education. Annual enrollment is open to 135 students who attend Barringer, Central, East Side, Malcolm X Shabazz, West Side and Science high schools. During an intensive six-week summer session and during the academic year on Saturdays and after school, students are involved in rigorous academic study with an emphasis on English, mathematics and science. In addition, they receive access to tutoring, counseling, cultural enrichment activities and other support services. The Upward Bound Program has operated under the auspices of Essex County College for the past thirty years and remains consistent with the institutional mission to "encourage people to enroll and excel who otherwise might not aspire to higher education" and provide "counseling, academic support services, cultural recreational activities which promote a positive self-image and which facilitate the intellectual, social, emotional and physical development of students."

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